



## At-a-Glance

Serving a 12-county region of Northwest Georgia, Highland Rivers Health is one of the state's largest providers of comprehensive treatment, recovery and support services for mental health disorders, substance abuse and addiction, and intellectual and developmental disabilities. Highland Rivers Health is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF).

### An essential community resource

- Highland Rivers is one of 25 Community Service Boards designated by the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities as public safety net providers. The agency accepts Medicaid, Medicare, private insurance and self-pay, and offers a sliding fee scale to ensure services are accessible to all in need.
- The agency serves a 4,400-square mile area of Northwest Georgia that includes Bartow, Cherokee, Fannin, Floyd, Gilmer, Gordon, Haralson, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, and Whitfield counties, and which is home to approximately 1 million residents.
- Highland Rivers operates more than two dozen treatment and recovery centers across its service area including outpatient and intensive outpatient clinics, inpatient and residential facilities, crisis stabilization units, adolescent clubhouses, developmental disability day centers, supportive housing and host homes.
- The agency provides services to approximately 16,000 children, adolescents, adults and families each year and is one of the largest providers of behavioral health services to veterans in Georgia. The goal of all treatment is to help individuals recover and live independently as productive members of their communities.
- Highland Rivers is part of a public-private continuum of community-based service agencies and works closely with local hospitals, courts, law enforcement agencies and other service providers to ensure all individuals receive medically appropriate treatment in the least restrictive environment.

### Emphasis on clinical excellence

- Highland Rivers is led by experienced clinicians including Chief Executive Officer Melanie Dallas, a Licensed Professional Counselor, and Chief Medical Officer Nizamuddin Khaja, MD, a board certified psychiatrist. The agency's medical staff of nearly 20 psychiatrists includes specialists in addiction, child and adolescent, adult, family, trauma, PTSD and geriatric psychiatry, among others.
- The agency employs approximately 600 qualified professionals including board-certified psychiatrists, advanced practice nurses/nurse practitioners, licensed clinical social workers, licensed professional counselors, registered nurses, pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, client support specialists, vocational specialists, certified peer support specialists, health technicians, paraprofessionals and more.
- Individuals and their families actively participate in making decisions about their treatment and creating treatment goals. An individualized treatment and recovery plan is developed for every person receiving services from Highland Rivers, which is reviewed regularly to assess goals, progress and outcomes.

### Active, accountable governance

- Highland Rivers is governed by a 14-member board of directors that includes a representative from every county in the agency's service area (with two members from both Floyd and Polk counties) who are appointed by each county's board of commissioners.
- The strength of the board comes from members' diverse and relevant backgrounds. Highland Rivers' board includes several individuals who have family members with mental illness, addictive diseases or developmental disabilities, and includes representatives from the judicial system, family services, private industry, law enforcement, local government and healthcare, among others.

For more information, visit: [www.highlandrivershealth.com](http://www.highlandrivershealth.com).